



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/807,785	06/11/2001	Denis Fauconnier	522-1738	4602
23644	7590	10/18/2005	EXAMINER	
BARNES & THORNBURG, LLP P.O. BOX 2786 CHICAGO, IL 60690-2786			DAO, MINH D	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
				2682

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/807,785	FAUCONNIER, DENIS	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MINH D. DAO	2682	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 23-36 and 39-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 35 and 36 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 23-27, 30-32 and 39-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 28, 29, 33 and 34 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. 	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 23-36, 39-44 in the reply filed on 07/05/2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 23-27, 30-32, 39-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Acampora et al. (US Patent 5,528,583) in view of Wang et al. (US 5,875,185).

Regarding claim 23, Acampora teaches a method of operating a telecommunications system in which mobile terminals may communicate with base stations over an air interface and a communications network is provided for linking each base station to other points in the network via one or more nodes, a communication to another user terminal being supported by one or more first radio links between one or more current base stations and a mobile terminal through a plurality of current nodes of the system (See fig. 1, col. 4, lines 22-34), the method comprising the steps of: providing to the mobile terminal information defining explicitly at least some of the current nodes of the communications network supporting the communication (col. 3, lines 59-66). However, Acampora does not teach that in preparation for setting up a further radio link between the mobile terminal and a target base station while the current one or more first radio links are still supporting the communication or one or more of the first radio links has just been lost: the mobile terminal transmitting the information defining explicitly at least some of the current nodes of the communications network supporting the communication to the target base station. Wang, in an analogous art, teaches a hand-off method that minimizes the path elongation by sending the current path information to the target base station (see figs. 3A, 5A, 7A; col. 5, line 28 to col. 7, line 52). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to provide the teaching of Wang to Acampora in order to implement a hand-off method that reduces the delay caused by the path elongation.

Art Unit: 2682

Regarding claims 24, 31, and 40, the combination of Acampora and Wang teaches a method according to claim 23, wherein the information is a list of addresses of the relevant network nodes (see Acampora, fig. 1, nodes 5, 7, 8, and 9).

Regarding claims 25 and 32, the combination of Acampora and Wang teaches the step of at least partially re-using the old communication path supporting the one or more first radio links for the new communication path including the further radio link, whereby the reused part of the old communication path terminates on one of the nodes defined in the information (see Acampora , col. 4, lines 44-55).

Regarding claims 26, the combination of Acampora and Wang teaches a method according to claim 23, wherein the method is part of a handover procedure or call re-establishment or assignment of a target base station to candidate set from neighbour set or assignment of a target base station from candidate set to active set (see Acampora , col. 4., lines 44-55; or see Summary of the Invention).

Regarding claims 27, the combination of Acampora and Wang teaches a method according to claim 26, wherein the method is part of a handover procedure and the further radio link is set up before the one or more first radio links are terminated (see Acampora , col. 4, lines 44-55).

Regarding claims 30, 39 and 41 the claims have the same limitations as in claim 23, therefore is rejected for the same reason set forth in claim 23.

Regarding claims 42, 43 and 44, the combination of Acampora and Wang teaches an explicit information defining nodes supporting the existing communication includes explicit information defining at least two levels of a hierarchical telecommunications network (see Acampora , fig. 1, col. 3, lines 45-50).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 35 and 36 are allowed for the reason indicated on page 9 of the Applicant's remarks filed 10/05/2004.
3. Claims 28, 29, 33, 34 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claims 28 and 33, cited references Acampora and Wang teach the limitations of independent claims 23 and 30, respectively, but fail to teach providing the mobile terminal with pre-authenticated reference data for that mobile terminal; copying the pre-

Art Unit: 2682

authenticated reference data to at least some of the current nodes of the communications network supporting the communication; and, in preparation for setting up the further radio link between the mobile terminal and the target base station: the mobile terminal transmitting at least a part of the pre-authenticated reference data to the target base station.

Regarding claims 29 and 34, cited references Acampora and Wang teach the limitations of independent claims 26 and 30, respectively, but fail to teach that the target base station beginning fast power control with the mobile terminal in preparation for setting up the further radio link between the mobile terminal and the target base station before the path through the network supporting the further radio link is complete.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 10/05/2004 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MINH D. DAO whose telephone number is 571-272-7851. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2682

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, QUOCHIEN VUONG can be reached on 571-272-7902. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Minh Dao *[initials]*
Art Unit 2682
October 11, 2005



QUOCHIEN B. VUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER